



## **August 08, 2022 – PRESS RELEASE**

### **RE: Drinking Water Treatment Facility – Construction Schedule Update**

The new Drinking Water Treatment Facility (DWTF) has begun startup with the dozens of the new treatment processes. Water began flowing through the new facility in mid-July when testing and process start up began. Due to some ductile iron piping material issues provided by the pipe manufacturer the project completion date had to be extended. The original substantial completion date for the facility to be online was August 16, 2022. The substantial completion date is now to October 4, 2022.

The construction delay was primarily due to a quality issue with about 350 factory primed and coated ductile iron fittings. The factory applied coatings on the fittings began to fail and fall off and had to be addressed onsite. The contractor is responsible to remedy the issue with the coating on the fittings and remediation was completed in early June. Unfortunately, because of this issue, construction progress was delayed. The facility could not begin testing and start up until the fitting issue was fully addressed. The time extension has monetary impacts to the City and through contract changes and a change order approved this morning at the Board of Public Works, the city has been monetarily compensated for costs incurred to date due to construction delays.

Ninety percent of the construction at the new DWTF is complete. Water began flowing to the new facility in mid-July. With the water flowing to the new facility from the wells, testing and startup of the new processes can begin. There are dozens of processes to startup and run and each will need to operate without issue for several days to show proof of operation. Some of the processes may be run at the same time to shorten the timeline as much as possible. Once each of the processes is proven to meet the design specifications the WDNR will be able to approve the new facility for operation. The original project schedule had testing beginning in February 2022. This allowed for about 6-months to test the facility and address any issues. Testing has now been compressed into a 2-months' schedule .